

# Media Advisory

from the South Carolina Forestry Commission



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Thursday, March 30, 2023

**CONTACT:**  
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## Table Rock State Park slated for prescribed burn Friday

South Carolina Forestry Commission firefighters, in cooperation with personnel from The Nature Conservancy, will conduct a 32-acre prescribed burn around 12 p.m. at Table Rock State Park Friday, March 31, weather conditions permitting.

The controlled burn is one of a series of cooperative efforts of the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network, a group of conservation partners who work together to apply fire in the mountains for forest restoration and wildfire reduction. It is also the latest in a recent revival of such burning in and around South Carolina state parks. Over the past two years, professional crews have burned more than 4,000 acres on eight state parks.

The objectives of Friday's prescribed burn at Table Rock are wildfire fuel reduction and wildlife habitat improvement. While Table Rock State Park will remain open to the public, some areas may be temporarily closed or blocked off for safety during the burn.

Media planning to attend must RSVP to SCFC Piedmont Assistant Regional Forester, Brad Bramlett (see contact info at right). Media should meet at the [West Gate entrance to the park off Highway 11](#).

Prescribed, or controlled, burning is the skilled application of fire under planned weather and fuel conditions to achieve specific forest and land management objectives. The practice has many benefits, including:

- **Wildfire hazard reduction:** reduces the amount of forest fuels (such as leaves, pine needles, & twigs), which reduces the chances of severe wildfires.
- **Wildlife habitat improvement:** improves habitat for animals (such as deer, turkey and songbirds) by promoting growth of valuable wildlife food plants.
- **Aesthetic enhancement:** reduces understory buildup of vegetation (briars and other undergrowth) to become open and more park-like.
- **Insect and disease control:** Reduces the spread of pest insects and diseases, such as certain plant fungi and reduces tick populations.

Gov. Henry McMaster has designated March Prescribed Fire Awareness Month in South Carolina, and the South Carolina Forestry Commission is raising awareness of the practice by inviting media to attend and cover as many controlled burns as possible across the state.

### Media credentialing

Video/photo opportunities and interviews will be made available to all credentialed media.

Media interested in covering the prescribed burn must RSVP.

**WHEN:** 12 p.m.  
Friday, March 31

**WHERE:** West Gate  
entrance,  
Table Rock State  
Park

**WHOM  
TO CALL:** Brad Bramlett  
Piedmont  
Assistant  
Regional Forester  
(864) 915-1924

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